

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the final Office Action dated May 30, 2008. In view of these amendments and remarks this Amendment should be entered, the application allowed, and the case passed to issue. No new matter or considerations are introduced by this Amendment. The amendment to claim 12 is supported by claims 13 and 14. Claim 15 is amended to maintain proper dependency.

Claims 12 and 15-20 are pending in this application. Claims 16-18 and 20 were withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement. Claims 12 and 13 were rejected. Claims 14, 15, and 19 were objected to. Claims 12 and 15 are amended in this response. Claims 1-11 and 21-29 were previously canceled. Claims 13 and 14 are canceled in this response.

Interview Summary

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of Examiner Basichas in granting a telephone interview with the undersigned on May 27, 2008. During the interview, the undersigned explained that Kawasumi et al. was not prior art. The Examiner agreed and indicated that he would send out a new Office Action.

Restriction

Upon allowance of generic claim 12, Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of the withdrawn claims (16-18 and 20) depending from the allowed generic claim, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12 and 13¹ were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tachihara et al. (U.S. 2002/0004021) in view of Woods (US 6,033,793).

These rejections are traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof respectfully requested.

The rejection of claim 13 is moot, as claim 13 is canceled in this response.

Claim 12 is allowable over the cited references because claim 12 has been amended to correspond to claim 14 rewritten in independent form. The Examiner indicated that claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As amended claim 12 corresponds to claim 14 rewritten in independent form, Applicant submits that claim 12 is in condition for allowance. The remaining pending claims all depend from claim 12, and are therefore, allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 12, and further distinguish the claimed warm up device.

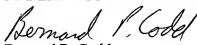
In light of the above remarks, this amendment should be entered, the application allowed, and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding these remarks or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite prosecution of the application.

¹ Claims 12 and 13 are rejected in two separate paragraphs in the Office Action.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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